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PRIORITY USUN NEW YORK

PRIORITY BUJUMBURA, KIGALI, RWAND

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PHUM, UN, UNSC, BY

SUBJECT: FRIENDS OF BURUNDI

REF: STATE 230866

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING UP ON INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL PARA 3, USUN IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EU, FRANCE, BELGIUM, UK, GERMANY, THE VATICAN, CANADA, JAPAN, TANZANIA, RWANDA, ZAIRE, KENYA, ZAMBIA, UGANDA, AND THE OAU TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDS OF BURUNDI WORKING GROUP AT UN NEW YORK.

3. THE PURPOSE OF THE GROUP IS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FURTHER INITIATIVES OF PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY TO AVERT A DETERIORATION IN THE SECURITY SITUATION IN BURUNDI AND TO ENCOURAGE BURUNDI TO RESOLVE ITS CURRENT GOVERNMENT CRISIS AND TO LOOK AT LONGTERM INITIATIVES FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONTINUED DEMOCRATIZATION.

4. IN MAKING THE DEMARCHE, MISSION SHOULD SHARE WITH INTERLOCUTORS THE USG'S ONGOING EFFORTS IN PREVENTIVE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L DARIS
DATE/CASE ID: 10 JAN 2006 200103014

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DIPLMACY, INCLUDING:

- DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE ON THE PARTIES TO COMPLETE SUCCESSION TALKS.
- DEMARCHES ON EXTREMIST ELEMENTS ON BOTH SIDES CAUTIONING AGAINST EFFORTS DESIGNED TO OBSTRUCT OR DESTABILIZE THE SITUATION.
- DEMARCHES ON THE SECURITY FORCES TO USE RESTRAINT IN MAINTAINING ORDER.
- DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT FOR FACILITATION EFFORTS OF SRSG ABDALLAH.
- REGULAR HIGH-LEVEL VISITS AND STATEMENTS TO DEMONSTRATE STRONG U.S. SUPPORT FOR BURUNDI'S FRAGILE DEMOCRACY AND REMIND BURUNDIANS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS WATCHING CLOSELY.
- SUPPORT FOR THE OAU TO FIELD AN EFFECTIVE OBSERVER FORCE.
- SUPPORT TO THE UNHRC AND ITS PLAN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICES {U.S. CONTRIBUTION - DOLLARS 300,000}.
- CONTINUED HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO BURUNDI AND THE SUB-REGION.

5. MISSION SHOULD ALSO REVIEW INITIATIVES THE USG IS CURRENTLY PURSUING OR WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE FURTHER, INCLUDING:

- SUPPORTING A REGIONAL REFUGEE CONFERENCE IN BUJUMBURA.
- ENCOURAGING GREATER CHURCH INVOLVEMENT IN RECONCILIATION EFFORTS.
- PURSUING THE POSSIBILITY OF DISPATCH OF FACILITATORS {E.G., AFRICAN ELDER STATESMEN}, POSSIBLY THROUGH THE OAU, TO HELP THE TWO SIDES FIND COMMON GROUND AND ISOLATE EXTREMISTS.
- ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF CLANDESTINE HATE RADIOS.
- CONSIDERING POSSIBLE FUTURE CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS AIMED AT SATISFYING CONCERNS OF BOTH SIDES AND AVOIDING A REPEAT

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OF THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY AND CURRENT SUCCESSION CRISES.

- CONSIDERING BEST METHODS FOR ASSISTING BURUNDIANS IN ESTABLISHING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THOSE MURDERED DURING AND AFTER THE OCTOBER 1993 COUP ATTEMPT.
 - EXPLORING DISPATCH OF QUALIFIED HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.
 - EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF GREATER NGO INVOLVEMENT IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION.
 - EXPLORING THE POSSIBLE NEED FOR A UN ARMS EMBARGO.
6. BUJUMBURA AND KIGALI - MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. 44

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